

Abstract of the Disclosure

An RF coil array is provided with increased S/N over the entire imaging FOV. The array design includes a first RF coil spanning the entire FOV, second and third RF coils which together span the entire FOV such that the entire system provides improved S/N over the imaging FOV. An aspect of the invention is the unusual combination of coils in one integrated structure, that are well isolated from one another and maintain preferred current distributions and mode orientations.